

The regular meeting of the Town Assembly of the Village of Arden was held on March 24, 1980 with Chairman, Thomas E. Colgan presiding.

As required by Senate Bill No. 256 the the following list of the attenders at this meeting is:

Virginia Shaw	Beatrice Jaffee	Rae Gerstine
Mary Merley	Thomas E. Colgan	Barbara Fenske
Don Holcomb	William Bailey	Yvonne King
A. Barnes King	Gail Rinehart	Janet Macnamara
Carolyn Liberman	Gene Shaw	Elizabeth Varley
Bill Morley	Sarah Hamburger	Marjorie Hamburger
Joan W. Colgan	Terry Colgan	Janice Keppler
Helen Macklem	Cy Liberman	John Grimaldi
Patricia Press	Bill Press	Frank Herzog
Lee Starr	John Hewlett	Beverly Gladstone
Shaul Gladstone	Tony Colgan	Mike Curtis
Alton Dahl	Frank Akutowicz	Matthew O'Connor
Beverly A. Barnett	Bernard Brachman	Bertha W. Brooks
Anne Berlin	Jim Semenick	Aaron Hamburger
Marge Roberts	Hugh Roberts	Tom Stapleford
Beverly Gulley	Susanne Drury	Betty Tonnesen
Ruth Holcomb	Lona Dorman	Norman Barron
Timothy Barron NV		

Letters received from Connie Harada and Betty Rupert for condolences for Cathy Hone's and her children death.

Correction on page 183 of minutes of January Town Assembly. Delete the lowest and sentence now reads-"It must be put for bid to the bidder that can supply service we need." The minutes as corrected were approved.

Trustees financial report was circulated. Cy Liberman reported that almost 1/2 the land rent for 1980-81 has been collected. The delinquencies are low, under \$4,000. but they will be collected. The investments of money has amounted to over \$11,000. in interest. Report accepted and copy of the report on file.

A motion was made that the meeting dispense with the regular order of business so that we can conduct the voting for committees and assembly officials. The Registration Committee distributed the ballots.

Assessors reported that two open meetings as required by the By-Laws will be held on Wednesday, May 21 and Monday, June 2.

~~Auditing Committee no report.~~

Budget Committee reported that since the special budgeting for trash collection for \$22,000 passed the estimated surplus as of March, 1981 will be about \$40,000., since the taxes have been less we could end up with 45,000 to to 48,000.

Civic Committee report read by Joan Colgan, prepared by Reese Davis. They held one open meeting since January. With the passage of the recent special referendum the Committee solicited competitive bids and negotiated a contract with Laxton Enterprises for continued trash collection until March 24, 1981. The cost of this service will be \$22,035. which is approximately 20% greater than the cost for this past year. Because of drastic increase in cost, your Committee urges this Assembly to consider alternative types of service well in advance of September budget submission time.

The second reading of the proposed amendment to Ordinance #4-Use of Commons will be considered.

A tour of the town to inspect conditions of the roads and rights-of-way will be made within the next month.

The Committee will consider the expenditure of Federal Revenue Sharing funds to provide a special Town Trash collection, since funds for this service were not separately provided by the Town Budget. Residents will be notified of such a service planned for early May.

We have contracted with Clark's Landscaping to mow and trim the grass on the Greens and Commons during the current season. This contract represents a substantial saving from the cost of last year.

Gail Rinehart reported on the other bids that we had received:
 Laxton Enterprises-twice a week at curb. \$18,000.
 Harvey and Harvey-once a week at curb . 17440
 Arrow Disposal -twice a week at curb 21408
 SonAire once a week at curb 22,000 with their containers
 SonAire once a week at curb 20400 with customers containers.
 In June a decision will have to be made on trash collection for year 1981-82.

Community Planning Committee report by Cy Liberman.

A woods and commons clean-up will be conducted on April 26. Volunteers are asked to meet committee members at 10 a.m. at Renzetti's. Bags will be supplied. If there are enough volunteers, area will be extended to road sides. The hope is to have the whole town cleaned up by May 18, Arden 80th Birthday celebration.

The committee is working on the educational exhibit it hopes to produce. Some of the work has been completed, but they need several artists to help complete the work. Report accepted.

Safety Committee report by Tony Colgan: Traps have been found to catch raccoons. Delaware Humane Society will help take action against this cruel practice. It is also dangerous for cats and dogs that can be entrapped. All residents are asked to be aware of the problem. The Claymont Fire Company will have a debate of the subject of adding paramedics to the ambulance crews. Report accepted.

Buzz Ware Village Center Committee report by Elizabeth Varley.

The committee has arranged to have Connie McKinney make a new plaque for the Arden Quilt. The sign will be hand lettered and will include the key, and the Award of Merit, as well as some of the background on the making of the quilt. It will be framed and hung next to the quilt.

The date for the annual three Arden Yard Sale will be Saturday the 7th of June. We will be announcing more information in the ARDEN PAGE.

Report accepted.

Playground Committee report by Beverly Barnett:

They have one inspection and one work session in the past two months. There were no major repairs.

The Committee has been advised by legal counsel and by Arden's insurance agent to install without delay an energy-absorbing ground cover under the two swing sets on the Green.

On February 12, we requested bids from 5 landscaping and construction firms. No have responded by March 15 deadline. Any suggestions as to whom to do the job will be appreciares.

The Committee was advised by the insurance agent to make sure that the Arden Green baseball backstop was sound and stable. We have requested ultra-sound examination and, pending the results, posted a "No Climbing" sign on the backstop. The residents should cooperate in stopping children from using the backstop as a climbing apparatus. Amount spent during fiscal year: \$1184.06. Report approved.

80th Birthday committee report by William Press. Many of the plans have been completed after several meetings. Invitations to the advent mailed to over 300 people out of town. Notice is going to all residents of the three Ardens. There will be activities at the school. photographic exhibit in the Craft Shop gallery, Art and photography show in back room of the Gild Hall, walking and riding tour of the town, Dinner from 4 p.m. to 6 p. m. in upper Gild hall. Folk Dancing and entertainment from 7 p.m. on the stage of Gild Hall. Plant sale during the day. May 12 from 10 a.m. should be a gala day for Arden.

Registration Committee report by Virginia Shaw.

A special referendum was held on February to vote on the continuation trash removal at the cost of \$22,000. Ballots were counted on February 26, 1980. There were 410 qualified voters of whom 343 cast ballots, an 80.3% response. There were 313 yes, 27 nays and 2 void. In reponse to questions raised in Town Assembly on several occasions as to wheter non-voters are predominantly new or established residents, we checked the returns: of the 68 who did not vote, 53 had been registered for two or more year, 9 less than two years and 6 either moved while the referendum was in progress.

For this referendum, and for all others of which the present members of the Committee have any knowledge, a ballot went into the mail addressed to every resident of six months standing of more after a thorough check. Voters were reminded that closing date was approaching. Report accepted.

A report of the special committee on insurance coverage. Report made by Hugh Roberts: Our insurance agent is checking with underwriters to see if the town can include constables under Workman Compensation.

An endorsement has been added under the General Liabilities section to read "Appointed and elected members of voluntary organizations are added as additional insured."

The second reading of the amendment to Ordinance 4-Use of Commons, Section 4 is as follows: No person shall fell a standing tree (dead or living) in the forests or common lands without possessing written authorization from the Civic Committee. Removal of wood from fallen trees in the forests shall be restricted to residents of Arden. Existing sections 4, 5, 6, 7 shall be renumbered Sections 5, 6, 7, 8. Amendment approved unanimously.

Community Planning Committee was asked what action has been taken in acquiring the parcel of land on Marsh Road as an addition to the Sherwood Forest.

The owner is not willing to work with and so far trying to get a federal grant and use of town funds has not worked out; therefore, no action has been taken.

The Registration Committee reported that Barbara Fenske and Beatrice had tied in vote on Registration Committee. So that we would not have to recount for this committee, Barbara Fenske withdrew her name from nomination.

The Registration Committee reported the results of the voting as follows: Auditing Committee: Alton Dahl, James Shinn, William Bindloss
 Budget Committee: Ruth Estes, Ruth Panella
 Civic Committee: Donald Holcomb, Eugene Shaw
 Community Planning: Patricia Renzetti, Bernard Brachman
 Registration Committee: Carolyn Liberman, Virginia Shaw, Beatrice Jaffe
 Safety Committee: Warren Davis, Bert Passanante
 BWVC Committee: Elizabeth Varley, Joan W. Colgan
 Playground Committee: Marianne Cinaglia, Jo Ann Davies
 Chairman of Town Assembly: William Press
 Advisory Committee: Hugh Roberts
 Secretary of Town Assembly: Mary Morley
 Treasurer of Town Assembly: Rae Gerstine

Under new business, Timothy Barron read a letter he had written to Richard Cherrin, Ardentown Chairman, protesting the proposed establishment of a women's pre-sentence facility at the Y.W. C.A. He stated that that he has lived with continuing burglary attempts, loss of gasoline, etc. but he draws the line at the establishment of the proposed pre-sentence housing center for women already convicted of crimes.

He fears that friends, relatives will also try to see these women and he doubts they are people that we would like to have moving around our villages.

He realized that Arden has a tradition of freedom, but he expects that establishment of a pre-sentences detention center will infringe upon our freedom of movement.

A motion made by Norman Barron and seconded by Hugh Roberts "I move that the Arden Town Assembly write a letter to the Ardentown officials, Ardentown YWCA and appropriate state agencies opposing the establishment of the Ardentown YWCA as a pre-sentence facility for the housing of female inmates. Motion carried with 34 aye and 10 nay votes.

Terry Colgan pointed out that we had not listened to the other side of the question. There are too few facilities around to house those women who have not been sentenced for their misdeeds, even though they had been convicted. The YWCA had had a home for battered wives that worked well and was discontinued because of lack of funds. Before we oppose the plan, we should at least hear from the YWCA official and from Delores Baylor, head of the Women's Correctional Institute at 100 Darley Road, Claymont, DE. Several other speakers admitted that they had acted too hastily in opposing the facility at the YWCA without full knowledge of the plan.

Motion was made by Terry Colgan, seconded by Joan Colgan "That a special Town Assembly be held before May 12 to meet with Department of Correction, the YWCA and the residents of the three Ardens be invited to discuss the proposed pre-sentence facility at the Ardentown YWCA.

There was some discussion that we did not need a special town assembly to discuss this matter.

An amendment to the motion was made by Aaron Hamburger, seconded by Hugh Roberts "that Ardentown, Ardentown Y MCA be invited to discuss the matter at our June 23 Town Assembly. The motion was defeated by 11 Ayes and 27 Nays.

The vote on the original motion was called and it passed with 30 Ayes, 10 Nays, 8 abstaining.

A resolution was passed that letters of condolence be sent to the daughters of Mary Bradford and to Mary Kummer and Dorothy Houes at the passing of their mother, Jane Thomas.

Michael Curtis reported that the following cities are considering Single Tax as a method of taxation: Pittsburgh, Scranton, Harrisburg, McKeesport and Newark, N. J.

The meeting on motion adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Morley
Mary Morley
Secretary